

MEETING SUMMARY
Washington Climate Advisory Team (CAT)
Residential, Commercial and Industrial Sector Technical Work Group (RCI TWG)
Call #2, May 23, 2007, 9:30am – 11:30am

Attendance:

1. Technical Working Group members:

Aaron Adelstein	King and Snohomish Master Builders
Ash Awad	McKinstry Energy
Craig Campbell	Lafarge Cement
Greg Carrington	Chelan PUD (for Rich Riazzi)
Anthony Chavez	Weyerhaeuser (with Sara Kendall)
Chris Elwel	Building Construction Trades Council (BCTC), Seattle
Bert Gregory	Mithun Architects
Nancy Hirsch	NW Energy Coalition (for Danielle Dixon)
Sara Kendall	Weyerhaeuser
Mo McBroom	WA Environmental Council
Sharon Park	Washington State Catholic Conference
Cal Shirley	Puget Sound Energy
2. Facilitation team (Center for Climate Strategies):

David Von Hippel
Michael Lazarus
Greg Powell
3. Washington State Agency (ECY/CTED) liaison and attendees:

Tim Stearns

4. Other attendees:

Approximately 10 members of the public listened to the call via a conference call service.

Background documents:

(all posted at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/cat_twg_rci.htm)

1. Agenda
2. Powerpoint presentation (including agenda) for meeting
3. Revised Catalog of State Actions
4. Revised Descriptions of Catalog Items
5. Summary of RCI Call #1

Discussion items and key issues:

1. The meeting started with a roll call of participants, and a presentation of the agenda for the meeting.
2. The facilitation team described the updated arrangements for public access to TWG calls, and to public input to the RCI TWG process.
3. The facilitation team asked for TWG comments on the Summary of TWG Call #1, as posted on the RCI web page. The TWG had no comments on the Summary, and the Summary was accepted.
4. The facilitation team provided additional information on the CAT and TWG processes, noting the steps that the TWG will go through to suggest, prioritize, elaborate, and analyze options for GHG emissions reduction, and points at which the TWG's work will be reviewed and considered by the CAT. They emphasized the procedure that the TWG will go through before the next call to carry out a preliminary selection of priority options to present to the CAT, and fielded questions and comments from TWG members regarding the procedure.
5. The facilitation team provided a brief overview of the actions in the draft "Catalog of State Actions, Residential, Commercial and Industrial (RCI) Technical Working Group", revised since the last call to reflect input from TWG members and others. David reviewed the major categories of actions and individual actions now in the catalog.
6. The facilitation team led a discussion of TWG members in which members suggested additional options for the Catalog, noted elements that could be added to existing catalog options, and described existing initiatives in Washington and other states relevant to new or existing catalog listings.

Discussion points included:

- The addition of an option for "public/private efficiency funds", possibly statewide, to providing low interest energy efficiency loans and other services (including support for neighborhood energy strategies), and patterned after initiatives in other jurisdictions (Cambridge MA, London, and others).
- The addition of a new catalog section on consumption and disposal issues associated with all products. This could include options for appliance and lighting products recycling, "waste-to-fuel" processes, and other options, with the overall goal of reducing the life-cycle greenhouse gas (and other) emissions "footprint" of products and their packaging.
- Within this new section, include an option to estimate and label the embodied (life cycle) energy and carbon of products and buildings, so as to provide feedback to consumers on their "carbon footprint", and encourage the use of lower-carbon products and building materials.

- The expansion of option 1.3 to refer more broadly to business and retail tax credits—including, for example, business or sales tax exemptions or reductions for targeted energy efficiency and renewable energy investments—as an implementation strategy for the option. Strategies to raise government revenues to support greenhouse gas emissions reduction programs were identified as an important consideration; the potential for tax credits to generate additional government revenues through increased local market activity and job creation and through re-spending of energy cost savings was also noted.
- Adding options or elements to options in the buildings category to highlight means of promoting energy efficiency improvements in the existing building stock, with particular emphasis on building operations, maintenance, and occupant behavior (for example, via total resource management systems), on the inclusion of renewable energy in building codes, and on noting the availability of different standards of “green building” and of different ways of measuring building performance.
- Expanding consideration of thermal/waste heat capture by adding elements to options in the buildings and combined heat and power/distributed generation categories to emphasize the capture of waste heat from power generation and industrial processes for use in homes and commercial buildings; and including a separate, related option for thermal energy infrastructure, district heating, and district-level planning in general
- Changing the title of 2.1 from “Improved” to “Advanced” Building Codes, and considering building codes set on a per capita basis rather than per square foot.
- Considering performance standards as an alternative to more prescriptive standards for building/materials practices (as an implementation option for 7.4).
- Considering an element or additional option to reflect the application of integrated “whole system” or “clean sheet” design (across multiple issues), as well as elements to ensure that government procurement processes provide incentives to construct high-performance buildings.
- Elaborating the linkage between energy use and community design, including possible administrative changes to enhance integrated design of communities and transport systems, and options to reduce urban “heat island” effects.
- The addition of elements related to education options, including types of education to be provided to different groups, preparation of new curricula, and linkages of consumer education programs with retail sales organizations.
- The addition of elements to the “pricing and purchasing” catalog section, including different types of rate structures and bases for rate structures, and metering/billing strategies and technologies to facilitate consumer decisions.

- Elements associated with the combined heat and power and distributed generation, including capture of waste heat for useful purposes and in district settings (as noted above), elimination/reduction of financial, regulatory, and other barriers to implementation of systems, and simplification and standardization of permitting and prescreening of projects.
 - The addition of options or elements related to strategies to reduce water use and related energy consumption for water provision and treatment, with possible linkage to the Agriculture and Wastes TWG
 - Greenhouse gas cap and trade options were noted and will be discussed at the CAT level in the upcoming CAT meeting.
 - Carbon tax options were discussed, with TWG members offering differing points of view.
 - The addition of a catalog option or element of an existing option requiring consideration of greenhouse gas emissions, and of options to reduce emissions, where and when government environmental review of projects takes place.
 - The need to clarify text on options for fuel switching.
 - The addition of an option, or possibly new section, related to creation of a “smart electrical grid” that accommodates functions such as interconnection of distributed power generation, plugging in hybrid cars (for charging and/or sending power to the grid from vehicle-based power sources), and electricity demand management via the grid, among many other functions. It was noted that this option spans at least the RCI and Energy Supply TWGs, and likely others (including transport and land use) as well, and thus may need to be considered at the CAT level as well as within TWGs.
7. The facilitation team asked the TWG if the TWG would like CCS to add to the catalog rough, order-of magnitude (High, Medium, Low, or Uncertain) estimates of the potential greenhouse gas savings potential of the items in the catalog, and similar estimates of potential cost or cost savings from each item (High, Medium, Low, Negative, or Uncertain). The TWG agreed that CCS would provide these initial estimates for the next CAT meeting on June 5, 2007.

Next steps and agreements:

1. CCS will revise the Catalog and the related Catalog Descriptions document to reflect the discussion in the TWG meeting, as well as additional comments and materials provided by TWG members and others. The revised catalog and descriptions will be prepared in time to be reviewed prior to the June 5 CAT meeting.
2. TWG members will continue to review the catalog and provide suggestions for additional catalog options or revisions to options, as well as input on existing State actions to reduce

GHG emissions that may not yet be captured in the Catalog or the Catalog Descriptions document.

3. CCS will incorporate suggestions into the catalog, if they are received with sufficient time prior to next meeting.
4. CCS will continue to recent state actions and develop a suggested calculation method to estimate the future emission reductions of these actions.
5. CCS will further revise the Catalog and the related Catalog Descriptions document following and incorporating the results of the June 5 CAT meeting, will prepare and circulate to the TWG instructions for the TWG on procedures for identifying priority options, and will compile TWG input on priority options prior to the next TWG meeting for discussion at that meeting.

Next meeting:

The next RCI TWG meeting is set for Monday, June 18, 2007, 2 pm to 4 pm. The next CAT meeting is set for Tuesday, June 5, in Spokane, WA.